

LYNCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE: **February 11, 2003**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 17

CONSENT:

REGULAR: **X**

CLOSED SESSION:

(Confidential)

ACTION: **X**

INFORMATION:

ITEM TITLE: **Reallocation of Fifth Street CDBG Funds.**

RECOMMENDATION: Approval of the reallocation of \$18,494 in the Fifth Street Economic Development project.

SUMMARY: In 1999 the City Council appropriated \$50,000 of CDBG funds for the Fifth Street Economic Development project. A total of \$30,000 was used to hire a consultant to develop a public/private redevelopment plan for the Fifth Street Corridor. The resulting "F.A. Johnson" report spurred the formation of the Fifth Street Community Development Corporation and made other recommendations for the corridor. The Fifth Street CDC is an active board meeting monthly and serving as an advocate for the redevelopment of Fifth Street.

In the fall of 2002 the Fifth Street CDC voted to extend its focus area to the "Memorial Street" bridge and to contract with Harvey-Delaney Architects to develop a gateway plan for this area. A total of \$1506 was used to develop the plan and has resulted in a public/private partnership for the construction of the gateway.

In 2003 the Fifth Street CDC and City Staff will develop a master plan for the Fifth Street Corridor. In conjunction with the planning process, the Fifth Street CDC proposes the reallocation of the remaining CDBG funds for projects along the corridor. The Fifth Street CDC proposes to use the funds for design services, gateways, landscape planters and façade improvements.

Since there is more than \$5,000 is remaining and the scope will change from planning to specific projects, the CDBG Citizen Participation Plan requires that a public hearing be held.

PRIOR ACTION(S): NA

FISCAL IMPACT: N/A

CONTACT(S):

Rachel Flynn / 847-1508, ext. 253
Tom Martin / 847-1508, ext. 226
Melva Walker / 847-1671, ext. 252

ATTACHMENT(S):

Resolution

Written request for reallocation of CDBG funds from the Fifth Street CDC.

REVIEWED BY: lkp

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that \$18,494 of 1999-2000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds be reallocated in the Fifth Street Economic Development project for design services, façade improvements and construction.

Adopted:

Certified:

Clerk of Council

041L



MEMORANDUM

The Department of Community Planning & Development

Planning Division

847-1508

To: City Council
From: Tom Martin, City Planner
Subj: Fifth Street CDC Re-appropriation of CDBG funds
Date: January 29, 2003

The Fifth Street Community Development Corporation was formed in 2000 as a direct result of the F.A. Johnson report and training. The CDC Board has been holding monthly meetings since 2000. The following list provides an overview of the projects initiated by the CDC.

- ? Mayor Carl Hutcherson, Jr. appoints a Fifth Street Revitalization Interim Steering Committee – July 2000
- ? F. A. Johnson Report – 2000
- ? Community Development Corporation Training – 2000
- ? Community Meeting - 2000
- ? Lynchburg College Partnership Formed – 2001
- ? City Planner assigned to assist CDC and conduct business contacts – 2001
- ? Façade improvement program developed – 2001
- ? Planning session with community development consultant – 2001
- ? Study of pedestrian activated traffic light in vicinity of Jerrico Baptist – 2001 - 2002
- ? Lynchburg College Business Plan Prepared – June 2002
- ? Study of “Biggers Park” improvements – June 2002
- ? Neighborhood Activities, Pumpkin Painting at Lawrence Market – October 2002
- ? Gateway Plan at Memorial Avenue Bridge – October 2002
- ? Study of improvements to BP Station – October 2002

- ? Potential purchase and rehab of 514 ½ Fifth Street for Central VA Firefighters Museum – Ongoing
- ? Housing Authority purchase of Lawrence Market property – In process
- ? Neighborhood Activities, Easter Egg hunt planned in April 2003
- ? Fifth Street Master Plan – To be prepared in 2003

Many of the activities of the Board have been a direct result of the F. A. Johnson report. The Lawrence Market property was identified as the top priority in the report and will be shown as a commercial / retail market place in the master plan that will be prepared. Also as recommended by the F. A. Johnson report the Board has formed several partnerships with local businesses and institutions such as Johnson Health Center, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg Neighborhood Development Foundation (LNDF), Community Housing Partners, Corp. and Harris Tire Company.

It is in my opinion that energy and interest in the Fifth Street area is building as a result of the work being done by the Fifth Street CDC. As mentioned above the Board in conjunction with City staff will prepare a master plan for the area in 2003. The Planning Division has also submitted a grant proposal to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for possible funding of the planning process. It is the desire of the Board to have the remaining CDBG funds reallocated towards more visual projects that will enhance interest in the area during the planning process.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

CC: Kim Payne, City Manager
Rachel Flynn, Director Community Planning & Development